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# The Alabamian

Vol. 92, No. 4

Friday, October 20, 2017

## Varagona wins 20th life raft debate

By VANDY MEYERS

The twentieth Life Raft Debate took place on Founders' Day, Oct. 12, 2017. The event began with Dr. Patton taking the stage to introduce this year's debate. In his opening speech he thanked the cast and crew who helped set up and run the event, participants past and present and the audiences over the years for being so involved.

For those who are unfamiliar, the main theme of the Life Raft Debate is survival. Humanity has been destroyed by some mysterious apocalyptic forces, and the only survivors are the attendees of the Life Raft Debate and the debaters themselves. The debaters each represent their field of study, this year's debate being composed of political science, social work, environmental studies and biology. Each participant argues on behalf of the usefulness of their discipline to those on the life raft, and those who lose the debate are thrown off. There is also the Devil's Advocate, who argues that none of the disciplines should be saved, and all the participants should be drowned.

The opening arguments were begun by Andrea Eckelman, last year's Life Raft Debate winner. Representing political science, Eckelman stated her field is about the relationship between people and their government as well as the art of compromise, both of which would be valuable skills on a small life raft and for rebuilding civilization. Brendan Beal argued on behalf of social work as a service to humanity and people. He focused on the skills of a social worker in helping



Although each professor put up a good fight, Varagona prevailed for a third time.

Photo by Vandy Myers

individuals build rapport, trust and relationships with one another, and on his real-world experience as a child abuse investigator. He closed his speech by arguing that those in the audience should celebrate their differences, and by showing pictures of his dogs. Susan Caplow introduced her argument by defining what environmental studies are. She focused primarily on that fact that her discipline could help those on the life raft figure out what environmental factors had caused the apocalypse initially, and how it could be prevented in the future. She closed her arguments by saying that environmental studies was a discipline designed for "this very moment," and reminded the audience that if they voted for her

they would also be voting to save her unborn child. Heather Tinsley, the fourth participant, argued for the virtues of biology. She asked the audience what they wanted most, and argued that it would be to live through the apocalypse, which is perfect for biology, the study of life. She closed her argument by reminding the audience that they were in a genetic bottleneck with most of the population dead, and to reproduce the survivors would need to maximize genetic diversity. This year's Devil's Advocate was Scott Varagona. He began his argument by saying he would be questioning the debate itself, rather than the candidates. After all, "We're still stuck on the boat!" He argued that the world has already

been destroyed, and that the participants were still needlessly arguing over who should be allowed to survive instead of acting. Then, he proceeded to point out the flaws in the participants' platforms. Eckelman failed to deliver her campaign promises from last year's win, Dr. Tinsley took the low road by focusing on sex, drugs, and rock and roll, Caplow shamelessly "played the pregnancy card," and Beal's dogs would "not fit on the raft." He closed his argument by saying that a vote for the Devil's Advocate was a vote for peace and cooperation. The ballots were cast, and Scott Varagona was elected the winner, bringing him to a total of three wins so far, two of which were as the Devil's Advocate.

## NEWS in BRIEF

By VANDY MYERS

A blast in Somalia has killed 20 people. On Saturday, October 14th, 2017, an explosion from a truck bomb killed 20 and injured at least 15 in Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia. According to Associated Press, police stated that there were people trapped in the rubble of the Safari Hotel, which was severely damaged. Even though no group claimed responsibility for the attack, regional extremist group al-Shabab often commits these types of attacks.

Russian Defense Ministry spokesman Maj. Gen. Igor Konashenkov reported that on Saturday, October 14th, Syrian troops had fully freed the town of Mayadeen from IS militants. According to Associated Press, Konashenkov said that Mayadeen was the last major IS stronghold in Eastern Syria. He also stated that the Syrian army backed by Russian warplanes are now going on the offensive against the Islamic State.

President Trump is set to nominate a climate change doubter as the environmental advisor. Climate skeptic Kathleen White, who worked under former Texas Gov. Rick Perry for six years, has ties with the fossil fuel industry. According to Associated Press, White is a senior member of the Texas Public Policy Foundation, a conservative think tank that received funding from Koch Industries, Exxon-Mobil, and Chevron. In 2014, White praised burning coal and petroleum for "improving living conditions" and stated that fossil fuels ended slavery.

Another underwater pipe in the Gulf of Mexico has burst, spilling oil into the water. The spill was found off the coast of southeastern Louisiana on Friday, October 13th, and the Coast Guard responded the next day. The oil spewed out of a fractured pipe about 40 miles from Venice, Louisiana. LLOG Exploration Offshore, the oil and gas operator, reported that between 7,950 and 9,350 barrels of oil leaked before the spill was stopped. The Coast Guard spotted three sheens of oil and has reported any surface oil will move away from the shoreline.

## Northern California fire still rages, at least 42 dead in blaze

By CALEB JONES

The Northern California fires have left at least 38 lives lost in its wake, as it continues to spread. The fires started in an area of California known as Wine Country since Sunday, October 9th, 2017. California's Wine Country consists of the valleys north of San Francisco contained in Napa and Sonoma Counties and the surrounding area. So far, the fires have destroyed over 5,700 homes, and burned 214,000 acres of land. Many vineyards in the area have also been completely destroyed, delivering a severe blow to Northern California's economy. Nearly 100,000 people have been evacuated so far, although an unknown number of people remain missing. The presence of law enforcement continues to increase in fire areas,

in order to make the areas slightly safer.

In total, there have been 16 large wildfires, with only two of them completely contained, leaving 14 still active. The most recent fire broke out in Lake County with at least 100 acres so far, known as the Long Fire. Most of the other fires are trying to be contained, with some of them close to being fully contained. More than 10,000 firefighters are currently battling the flames. The gusty winds have proven to be a major issue as they continue to fan the flames and spark other fires. California is still currently in a state of emergency. Red Flag Warnings continue to be in effect due to the amount of wind.

According to Associated Press,

the city of Santa Rosa, the largest city in Wine Country, was damaged significantly due to the fires. Santa Rosa lost many business, restaurants, and homes. Buildings damaged or destroyed consist of a Kmart, the Silverado Resort in Napa, and a Hilton hotel in Santa Rosa. The surrounding hospitals near Santa Rosa were overburdened as well. St. Joseph Health, operators of those hospitals, report that the large majority of patients were treated for smoke inhalation. Two of the hospitals had to evacuate many patients.

Many organizations are accepting donations to help those affected by the Northern California inferno. The Community Foundations of Mendocino, Sonoma, and Napa Counties as well as

United Way, American Red Cross and Redwood Credit Union are accepting financial contributions among others. Anyone looking to volunteer is encouraged to visit the American Red Cross website and follow the CaliforniaVolunteers Twitter page, @CalVolunteers. Willing volunteers can also call the Volunteer Center of Sonoma County at (707) 573-3399 or text the Napa Community Animal Response Team at (707) 666-3598. Many are also encouraged to spread the word about donation and volunteer efforts or collect items for donation. More information can be found at the CaliforniaVolunteers website.

The Wine Country Fire continues to prove to be the deadliest fire in California history.

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# Pat Scales special collection opened to public

By COURTNEY McCULLOUGH



Pat Scales leads the ribbon cutting for her special collections room.

Photo by Savannah Barton

Pat Scales was honored Thursday, Oct. 12, with the dedication and ribbon cutting of the Pat Scales Special Collection.

Scales is an alumna of the University of Montevallo, once known as Alabama College, class of 1966, and has dedicated her life to literature, particularly children and young adult literature.

Provost James McDonald listed Ms. Pat Scales’ accomplishments through her life, all of which are related to her love of a good book and her willingness to share the joys of reading with others.

McDonald also listed some of the books in the collection and gave their significance.

“Among other things, the Pat Scales Collection includes recordings, soon to be digitized, of major authors discussing their work with young readers and fielding their questions,” McDonald said.

Her love of reading and books encouraged her to pursue being a librarian and teaching others how to spread this love of books.

An advocate, Scales has dedicated her life to the pursuit of intellectual freedom by protesting the banning of books.

She has written books and newspaper columns dedicated to protecting texts and sharing the love of reading with the younger generation.

Scales has also served on the award committees for Caldecott, Newbery, and Wilder.

“Pat has enjoyed an amazingly active life of the mind,” McDonald gushed.

In 2010, discussions began for building a special collections room inside of Carmichael.

Pat Scales gave her collection of children and young adult literature to the University of Montevallo, including stories which have won awards, such as the Caldecott, Newbery, and Wilder Awards.

She even donated items of historical value as a tie in with the books.

Others have donated their own

books, time and money into the project, excited to see it move forward.

Library Director Charlotte Ford shared her enthusiasm as the ceremony came to a close.

“We now have a first class research collection for people who are interested in knowing more about children’s and young adult literature,” Library Director Ford spoke.

President John Stuart the Third gave thanks to everyone involved with building the special collections room. He expressed his gratitude and gave them recognition for a job well-done.

President Stuart went on to tell of his day with his grandson, how one of the stops they made was to the new Pat Scales Special Collections Room and how it sparked something for this 6-year-old.

“It was magical to see him really fall in love with some of the selections in Pat’s Collection,” Stuart spoke with a grin.

Scales then introduced her friend and colleague, Ellen H. Ruffin, the curator of the de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection at the University of Southern Mississippi Libraries.

Ruffin expressed her excitement at being invited to the event. She talked about Scales and her work, even recited a sort of poem dedicated to Pat Scales and her character.

“Librarians who read that story were probably challenged in the same way I was,” Ruffin said about

the time where Scales assisted a young boy in getting his new books by listening and understanding what it was he wanted.

The crowd enjoyed a few laugh and some jokes with Ruffin before the ceremony was turned over to Scales and her family.

Scales and her nieces and nephew, in spirit of the new collection, read a few passages from their favorite childhood stories.

“I have many favorite books from my childhood, but I’m going to mention one, instead of one from my childhood, one from my adolescence. It’s A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith. And I can cite specific scenes from that book, and I remember some of the dialogue verbatim,” Scales spoke.

The event was brought to a close by Carey Heatherly, Carmichael’s own archivist. He gave his thanks to those who worked on the Pat Scales Special Collections Room and to Pat Scales for her donations.

The ceremony officially ended once the ribbon was cut and the room was opened.

The new room has been a source of pride and excitement for UM and for Scales.

The Pat Scales Special Collections Room will be used for students studying children’s literature and will hopefully promote more students and adults alike to study the stories their children read.

# UM recognized for low student loan debt

COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

According to a recent report, the University of Montevallo is ranked 12th among the top 250 schools for the lowest student loan debt for parents. This analysis was determined by The Student Loan Report, a website covering the latest in higher education financial aid.

Using financial aid data licensed from Peterson’s to compile the latest listing, The Student Loan Report recognized the top colleges and universities in the U.S. that leave parents with the least amount of debt after taking out Parent PLUS loans.

Parent PLUS loans are student

loans taken out exclusively by the parent to pay for their child’s education; only the parent is responsible in repayment and the student does not have to worry about anything except getting A’s. Parent PLUS loans can still saddle parents with debt, but some schools leave the parent with less debt than others. The Student Loan Report recognized 36 public universities and 214 private institutions.

“While parents are willing to do whatever for their children, money still matters, and these schools have proven to be the most cost-effective options for parents looking to send their child off to

college,” The Student Loan Report explains.

In recognition of this honor, Director of Student Financial Services at the University of Montevallo said, “We are very sensitive to student and parent student-loan debt levels at UM and are consistently increasing institution and foundation scholarship funds for our students as well as student employment opportunities. Students can now apply online for scholarships for the fall 2018 and spring 2019 academic year at [montevallo.awardspring.com](http://montevallo.awardspring.com).”

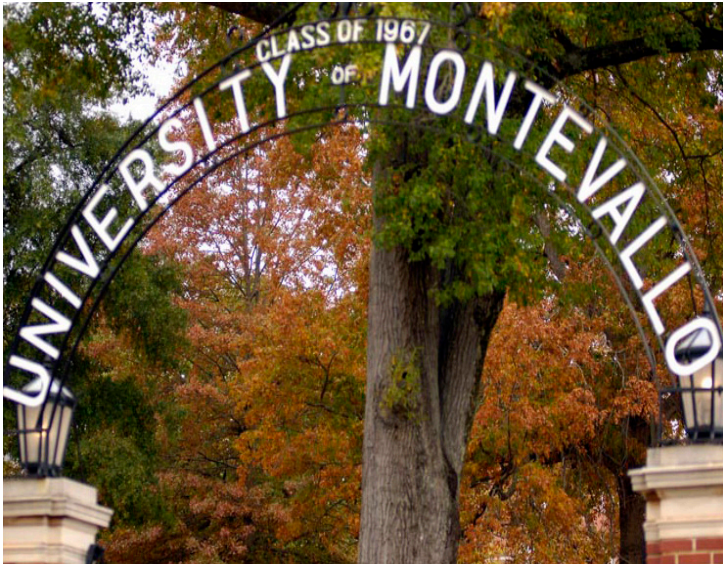


Photo courtesy of University Relations

# UM hosts panel on mental health

By CALEB JONES

Mental health is a serious subject, and its one that comes up often considering the National Alliance on Mental Health (NAMI), estimates that 1 in 5 Americans are affected by mental illness. Mental health is equally important as one’s physical wellbeing, which is why awareness must be raised about mental illness and the resources that are available for people with mental illness to seek help. On October 10, also known as National Mental Health Awareness Day, the University of Montevallo NAACP in conjunction with the UM Counseling Services, held a discussion on mental health, particularly how it affects the black community; the discussion was called Black Mental Health Matters and it featured “a panel of peers as well as professionals to release the stigma and answer questions that plague the African American Community”.

The discussion analyzed many stigma and questions about mental health in the black community and about why a taboo has been placed on discussing and/or seeking help for mental illness. Many important subjects were brought

up, such as what barriers prevent the discussion of mental health in the black community, stereotypes and assumptions about counselors and counseling, and how religion can affect the decision of whether to seek mental health treatment or not. Here are just a few of these subjects and the answers proposed.

What barriers that can prevent mental health from being discussed in the black community, and what can make people reluctant to seek help?

One factor that was identified as a barrier is a lack of knowledge about what mental illness is. The Mayo Clinic, a non-profit medical practice and research group, defines mental illness as “a wide range of mental health conditions—disorders that affect your mood, thinking and behavior. Examples include depression, anxiety disorders, schizophrenia, eating disorders and addictive behaviors”.

This knowledge about just what a mental illness can be is crucial to have, so that someone who has a mental illness can recognize it for what it is; its harder to seek help when you don’t realize that you need it. As for reasons

why people in the black community may be reluctant to seek help, the panel brought up the fact that seeking help rather than dealing with things on one’s own can sometimes lay outside of the cultural comfort zone; people can sometimes hold a false belief that discussing their illness and seeking help for it makes them ‘weak’ and that people may judge them for not being strong enough to handle their own problems. This can lead to one thinking that if they seek mental help in a cultural that looks down upon seeking it, that must not be “balck enough”; black individuals need to stop letting other people (including other black people) describe and designate them a degree of “blackness” and making them feel less than for living a stereotype. To combat this way of thinking, the black community has to work to change that narrative, and to make it clear that having an illness does not make someone ‘weak’, and that it is okay to seek help.

Common misbeliefs and assumptions made about counselors and counseling.

One thing that can be a de-

terrent from people in the black community seeking professional help is the common misbelief that counselors are nothing but the classic “shrink” stereotype, people who did around in their client’s head and are nothing but scrutinizing and cold analysts. The panel brought up the fact that that isn’t true at all. Counselors and therapist are just like normal people and they go through things sometimes too; in fact even counselors need counseling sometimes! Counselors are people you can talk to confidentially, who will try to see things from your point of view and who can steer you towards outlets where you can get help; also, there is no shame in seeking counseling because no one, no matter who they are, is above needing help.

If you want to learn more about mental illness, or you if you need or know someone who needs counseling, don’t be afraid to visit the UM Counseling Services, located on the bottom floor of Main!

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# Student organizations raise money for cancer research at Carnival For a Cure

By COURTNEY McCULLOUGH

On Oct. 13, Main Quad was filled with laughter and games. The University of Montevallo's Student Government Association sponsored the fourth annual Carnival for a Cure. Carnival for a Cure is a fun way the SGA raises money for the American Cancer Society. Mackenzie Haugh, SGA's Director of Public Relations, said the goal for the evening was general. "Just as much as we can will be good." She said. Organizations from across campus set up games or activities with costs ranging from one to five tickets. Ticket prices were set at 10 cents a ticket. Skee ball, face paintings, ring toss, 'news-ical' chairs, bean bag tosses and goodie bags for the winners were all part of the fun. Walter Price helped run the Minority Student Union's booth. It was a game called Shoot for a Cure. Depending on which basket the piece thrown landed in, a different prize would be given. "In the bigger ones, we have getting some candy or a random item or a 'puppy' stuffed toy. The little ones were money. One is real money, one is fake money." He spoke with a grin. Montevallo residents and UM students came to participate and join in on the fun. Lily Elmore, a senior political science major, came to just have fun, spend time with her friends,



Students gather for fun and games on Main Quad.

Photo by Savannah Barton

and play a few games. "I'm having a pretty good time. A lot of my friends here are working for their various student organizations and it's really fun to see everybody. And I got my face painted, so that's fun too." She laughed. Children, parents and students alike ran about the quad with their faces painted and their hands carrying goodie bags won from the

games. Some even brought their four-legged friends to enjoy the festivities. Jordan Ashley Fore and her friend Savannah Humphryes enjoyed the event with Fore's dog Emerie. "She loves coming to events." Humphryes laughed. Music blasted on in the background, occasionally getting

people to dance or sing along. Inflatables were brought in this year; including a bounce house obstacle course, an inflatable game, and a bounce house with a slide. The carnival also had food options in place for when people began to feel hungry or tired. The SGA ran a popcorn machine and a cotton candy machine, each purchasable by tickets.

Kona Ice, a favorite vendor for UM events, offered free shaved ice for those who got heated playing the games or competing in the bouncy obstacle course. At the end of the event, the SGA raised over \$560 for the American Cancer Society. This donation will be used to assist in research and in the care for those who cannot afford it.

# Savvy Shopping teaches students to cut costs with coupons

By LILY DICKINSON and MAGGIE SANDERSON

On Tuesday, Oct. 3, Delta Sigma Theta hosted an event called Savvy Shopping where Katrina McTyer, a Delta Sigma Theta alumna, spoke on her vast knowledge of all things couponing. McTyer began by outlining "The Golden Rule" for saving cash, which is "if you don't have a coupon for it and it is not on sale, then do not buy it." She then went into methods for getting the most out of your couponing experience. McTyer stressed that you must "buy enough of an item to last until it comes back on sale," therefore creating a stockpile of items. As she learned from the TLC show "Extreme Couponing," having a stockpile of goods, such as detergent and toothpaste, is vital to being thrifty. Next, McTyer thoroughly went through all the possible places for one to get coupons, the first being newspapers. For those who don't buy newspapers, there is a plethora of online resources to print coupons that you can use. Along with these choices, coupons can be found in stores, magazines, coupon books and more. Once you have your collection of coupons, McTyer went into detail about all the ways to organize your stash. The first option of organization that she suggests is to go ahead and cut out all the coupons and sort them based on

what they are for. This saves time and energy at the store and allows for more efficient shopping. However, this option is very time intensive. The second option is to "cut coupons as you go." This means that you file away all your sheets of coupons and, when you are ready to use one, simply cut it out. Unfortunately, this may mean that sometimes you don't have the coupons you want when you need them. At the end of the event, McTyer handed out door prizes to a few lucky attendees. Eron Burrell, the winner of the grand prize of a binder, scissors and page protectors, perfect supplies for a beginner couponer, said, "I thought [the event] was very informational, actually. It was a lot of information but it was very helpful for the future." Burrell said he is now interested in couponing. "I know when I do go shopping I don't have a system that I use, so I think it will be better for me to use a system. She gave us a lot of information for it." For those interested in couponing, McTyer offered this advice, "You have to be organized, but don't get discouraged, because you start off, and in the beginning you don't save a lot. Because you're really trying to feel your way through it, but if you persist, it gets bigger and bigger and bigger."



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Opinion: Sustainability efforts at UM



By SAVANNAH BARTON

Photo by Savannah Barton

It is always hard to know whether or not anyone is doing enough. “Are there more things to be done? Did I do this well enough to be considered my best?” A lot of college students have caught themselves thinking these things. But how many of those around us are for the environment around them? The answer is a pretty hefty one.

There are plenty of groups that ask the same questions about the area around them. Amazingly, the community of the University “has made a lot of commitments to sustainability,” said Dr. Susan Caplow, Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies.

“With notable achievements including the UM Organic Community Garden, Ebenezer Swamp Ecological Preserve, The UM Green Fund, Vallocycle, the Environmental Studies program and the Sustainability Committee.” Caplow also takes note that “students have also made great contributions to the greening of the campus through efforts

in coursework, service learning, housing and residential life, SGA and the Environmental Science Club to name a few.”

That is a lot of great information, though they are still working on “creating a master plan so that our campus has more strategic directive to guide us in our next sustainability moves.” Though this all is great news to the local environment, is there anything else an average student can do to stop the overwhelming pollution? Only we can decide that. We could be the ones who save the world from climatic disasters far more dangerous than the one of our time for possibly another generation.

As heard in various forms of media, from The Bible to movies, it is said that it takes only one person to take a stand. Do you think that Katniss Everdeen would have been important in “The Hunger Games” if she just killed Peeta in the battle field? No. She took a stand, and it led to a revolution. Same thing with the Pixar animated film, “A Bug’s Life,” where

one ant took a stand and lead the other ants to revolting against the grasshoppers. Though this isn’t a large revolution going on, what we do need to do is stand up for the things around us. The ones without a voice will forever have no voice, or at least not without a voice to speak out for them. And if you’re not into speaking out in public, there are a few private things that you can do.

You can help by dumping plastic, paper and other recyclable items into your recycle bins, make fun crafts with your leftover plastic bottles or donate them to someone who would be more than happy to turn them into masterpieces, keeping your trash inside your car or even simply turning out the lights when no one is using them. Simple little changes could lead to great changes in the area around you. There is so much you can do to stop the climate from taking a hard hit from the human population.

UM professor receives teaching award

COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

On Oct. 12, the University of Montevallo’s National Alumni Association recognized Dr. Sherry Ford, professor of communication, with the Outstanding Commitment to Teaching Award for 2017. Ford’s journey through academia began at Jacksonville State University in 1992, where she received her bachelor’s degree in communication and English. Ford went on to receive her master’s degree from the University of Montevallo in 1994.

Ford received her doctorate from Louisiana State University and returned to Montevallo as an assistant professor of communication in 2003.

Currently, Ford is a professor of communication and has remained an active member of the University community throughout her time at UM, as is evident from her membership in various University committees and councils.

From 2006 to 2010, Ford was the College of Fine Arts Representative for the University of Montevallo Justice Council. Additionally, Ford served as Honors Program Director from 2008 to 2013, and participated in the Montevallo Ambassador Program Scholarship selection committee from 2009 to 2013. Ford was also Vice President for the Academic Affairs Search Committee in 2011.

Ford presently serves as the communication studies program director and as a faculty representative for the McNair Program Advisory Board.

According to her nominees, Ford often goes above and beyond for her students both in and out of the classroom.

“Perhaps the proof that Dr. Ford is an exemplary teacher is that Her classroom lessons have stuck with me for all these years, but the proof that Dr. Ford is an exemplary person is that she has stuck with me and with so many of her students since graduation,” wrote Jefferson Walker ’08, one of Ford’s former students.

Ford’s colleagues also recognized her dedication to the University and to the discipline of communication, recalling instances where Ford surpassed professional expectations.

“When Dr. Ozley went on sabbatical, she volunteered to step in and teach a required major course that was new to her,” said Dr. Sally Hardig, professor of communication.

Department of Communication Chair Dr. Randall Scott said Ford exhibited skills in her first years of teaching that many struggle for years to acquire.

“I use her advice and her example of persistence in my career today and try to display the example she has shown for years,” said Perry Barnett ’08, a former advisee of Ford. “Her words of wisdom and suggestion to always lean forward on task still helps me navigate life after college.”

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# Fashion on the bricks: creepy couture

By LILY DICKINSON and MAGGIE SANDERSON



Pipes (left) and Warren (right) revel in the nostalgia induced by dressing up for Halloween.

Photos by Lily Dickinson and Maggie Sanderson

October 31st is upon us and the celebration of Halloween is eagerly awaited by Montevallo students, anticipating the day when they can be decked out in frightening fashion without getting any weird looks. The holiday is beloved among college students; as Sophomore Katie Warren says, “My favorite part of Halloween is the childhood memories it brings back to me- going trick-or-treating with my parents when I was younger and stuff like that. Just the idea of

dressing up in a costume makes me feel like a kid again!” Reanna Pipes, a freshman, agrees saying, “My favorite part of Halloween is trick-or-treating and seeing all the costumes.” It is the costumes, ranging from rather lazy to elaborately put together, that are the crowning jewels of Halloween. We talked to a few folks about their spooky style. For some, coming up with a costume idea is easy. Perhaps a favorite book or movie may in-

spire your look, which how Pipes figured out what she wanted to go as. “This summer I finally got to watch the 2016 Ghostbusters movie. I immediately became obsessed and wanted to be Abby from the movie.” However, other people, such as Warren, are just stumped about what they want to be and seek inspiration in other places, “For the longest time, I couldn’t think of an idea for what I wanted to dress as. Then when some friends and I went shopping

at a thrift store, one of them came up with the idea, and I liked it so much that I decided I had to do it.” Once you know what you want to go as, figuring out how to put it all together is the next step. Pipes was able to find her costume online, “I bought the outfit and added my yellow rain boots to go with it.” But, if you can’t find the perfect look preassembled, you can also have a DIY costume. Warren, as pictured above, will be wearing

a Hogwarts student uniform. “I bought some of the items for it, but I also had fun crafting for some elements. None of my outfit was pre-assembled. The shirt I bought at the thrift store; I already owned the perfect pair of pants for the outfit; the button-up I borrowed from a friend; the tie I bought at the thrift store and then hand painted stripes onto it.” Whether you buy your costume or build it yourself, your outfit will be the height of creepy couture!

# Halloween movies for the faint of heart

By WAID JONES

Every Halloween there’s a flood of top ten lists about the best horror movies, the scariest, the spookiest, the most frightening, but what about movies for the rest of us? I, like many others, have a stone-cold aversion to horror movies. I don’t like being frightened, I don’t like turning the lights off and being afraid that there’s something there, and I certainly don’t like when the screen is flooded with situations that are just meant to create the most gore possible- I’m looking at you, “Evil Dead” and “Saw.” This is the list for the faint-hearted, the ones who love spooky halloween movies but hate to be scared by them. These are many movies that can get you into the Halloween spirit without trying to scare your spirit out of your body. What many of these movies share with their more scary brethren is the atmosphere, mood, supernatural elements and often a sense of urgency with the deadline being none other than midnight on Halloween. Starting of the list is a movie that embodies all of those things. The “Halloweentown” movies,

especially the first movie in the series, simply titled “Halloweentown,” will give you a sense of the holiday as the movie is set in a town where it is always Halloween. The movie focuses on a young girl, Marnie, who learns that she’s a witch and must then save her town from supernatural forces. With Halloween being a time that we often like to think about these supernatural forces let’s next move onto some ghosts. The movie “Casper” (1995) follows the title character, Casper, as he simply tries to keep his home, and make a new friend in Kat whom he quickly falls in love with The problem? Kat’s father was hired to remove Casper and his unpleasant, often vulgar, uncles from their home. Next we move onto something a little more scary but still very family friendly. “Hocus Pocus” (1993) centers on two teenagers and an immortal cat who are once again in this list trying to save their town from magical forces. With witches and wizards, “Hocus Pocus” creates a wonderful atmosphere of danger and excitement as three witches are resurrected




The cast of Young Frankenstein poses with director Mel Brooks.

Photos courtesy of Tribune News Service




in Salem, Massachusetts and try to capture all the children in the town so that they can become immortal. The next movie that I suggest you watch this Halloween is “Paranorman” (2012). It’s an off-the-wall suggestion but almost everyone has seen the other animated movies that I’d suggest, such as “Coraline” and “The Corpse Bride,” and I think that this option with its wonderful animation and quirky characters could really

be a wonderful addition to your Halloween. The movie centers on Norman, an 11-year-old boy who can talk to the dead, and while reading from a book in a graveyard accidentally raises the dead. My final suggestion for your Halloween of uns scary movies is “Young Frankenstein” (1974). Mel Gibson’s amazing black and white film about the grandson of the famous scientist who attempts to create his own monster. After inheriting the family estate in Tran-

sylvania he returns and discovers how to make his own monster. Hilarity ensues afterwards in this wonderful comedy with abnormal brains being procured by his bumbling assistant Igor. No matter what movie you want to watch this Halloween, whether it be scary or not, you should definitely consider adding all of these movies to your list, as all of these would make a great addition to a fun and eventful Halloween.

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PLAYLIST



HALLOWEEN HITS

**“Shadowplay” - Joy Division**  
This song, like most of Joy Division’s discography, has a certain subtle spooky pulse to it that can be felt through a whole building -- perfect for a halloween party. Throw in a couple of smoke machines, and you’re set!

**“Pet Sematary” - The Ramones**  
If sharing a title with the 1989 Stephen King film wasn’t spooky enough for you, this song is loaded with graveyard imagery and ominous lines that feel just right for a late-night walk under a full moon.

**“I Miss You” - blink-182**  
Packed with references to all things halloween from spiderwebs to Tim Burton films, this song is a great throwback to your middle-school goth phase and that cute emo boy from homeroom you never got up the guts to talk to.

**“Dracula’s Wedding” - Outkast**  
Commitment and heartbreak can be scary things, even to Dracula, and this early 2000s track explores that idea with a steady bassline and a clever extended metaphor.

**“Hex Girl” - Moon Sisters**  
This song always makes me think of my favorite “Scooby-Doo” character cameo: The Hex Girls! A fitting theme for the spookiest girl-group on TV, this track is also perfectly suited for any Halloween party playlist.

**“Weird Science” - Oingo Boingo**  
From the album Dead Man’s Party, Oingo Boingo’s 80’s ode to all things mad science is a mainstay on Halloween party playlists. With it’s manic tune and Frankenstein-themed lyrics, listeners find themselves ready to don a lab coat and goggles and raise the dead.

**“Look What You Made Me Do” - Taylor Swift**  
Swift dropped this single in August, but we think it has more of an October-feel. Between the song’s vaguely spooky lyrics and the zombie get-up Swift donned for its music video, this track has definitely earned the Halloween stamp of approval.

**“Madhouse” - Little Mix**  
This song is a great mix of fear-inducing and funky. While the lyrics tell a story of hearing voices and escaping from men in white coats, the beat makes you want to get up and dance.



# UM review: The Wolves

By GEORDIE KENNEDY

The Chi Box theater took on an unusually athletic atmosphere on the nights of Oct. 5 through 9. The University’s College of Fine Arts presented Sarah DeLappe’s award winning production, “The Wolves.” In its Alabama premiere, directed by Marcus Lane, “The Wolves” starred an all-female cast comprised of Montevallo theater students.

The play tells a story of teenage struggle and interpersonal strife in the context of an all girls’ indoor soccer team. The nine main characters are at no point identified by names outside of the numbers printed on the back of their jerseys, giving an unusual sense of anonymity to a group of characters with such powerful personalities.

Much of the play’s defining action is not shown onstage. Instead, the present characters’ interactions give clues to their lives outside the small square of Astroturf that makes up the stage. The most present story is that of number 46, a talented new teammate from overseas. Marlena Elliot’s performance as 46 was spot on in its portrayal of a well-meaning, but often misguided new addition to the team of longtime friends.

Despite its electrifying intensity, the script still manages an incredible complexity in its writing. Each character, without even being named beyond a number, presented a distinct and vibrant personality, each of which was portrayed fantastically by the cast. Conversation between characters was fluid and natural, allowing for the sudden shifts from casual chat-



Marlena Elliot played the part of 46 in the production. Photo courtesy of University Relations

ting to sudden, intense conflict.

A prime example of the versatility of the characters as well as the actors portraying them was Kodi McDearmont’s performance as 00. Though the part had relatively few lines, McDearmont’s subtle emotion and reaction endeared the audience to the character long before her dramatic solo scene toward the end.

A hallmark of the production was the overlap in conversation. Characters established connections between one another through interwoven, overlapping conversations. Though the transitions from

these parts to the issue at hand for the scene were sometimes difficult to follow, they served to create character distinction quickly and distinctively, and the cast worked well within the space to supplement this.

Overall, “The Wolves” was another home run for the theater department. The casting was done well and the cast filled their roles excellently. Audiences left the Chi Box with new perspectives, lasting experiences and memories of the haunting thematic chant: “we are the wolves.”

## THIS DAY IN HISTORY

By WAID JONES

On that fateful day in London, on October 20, 1847 William Newton Allnut, 12, watched on carefully as his grandfather, Samuel Nelme, took what would in the end be his last bite of porridge. Sprinkled on it only moments before by his loyal wife, Sarah Nelme, was a mixture of sugar laced with arsenic poisoning. Of course, Mrs. Nelme didn’t know a thing about this for it had all been William Allnut’s plan. This hadn’t been an action taken out of impulse by Allnut, no this was premeditated and cold-blooded murder.

Five days before Allnut had stolen the key to the bureau where his family kept their rat poison. You see at that time in 1847 rat poison was just as effective at the disposal of rodents as it was at the disposal of cruel and hateful grandparents. You see there are always two side to every story, Allnut’s grandfather had a mean streak and had on many occasions beaten his grandson. One such notable occasion he had hit Allnut and caused him to fall hitting his head on the hard ground of their home.

Earlier it’s believed that Allnut had either attempted a more direct method to complete his task or had tried to misdirect those who would think he was the culprit. No one will ever know, what we do know is that one day while walking through the garden with Allnut and his grandfather had heard a loud bang, a gunshot had erupted from somewhere by them, with Allnut claiming to have seen a mysterious figure disappearing over the hedge. Later that evening a gun was discovered in the yard next to their own this gun was believed to have belonged to Allnut.

In the end Allnut’s misdoing was his method of poison, the arsenic in the sugar led to the mysterious sickness of both his mother and his grandmother as well. Surprisingly Allnut did not get sick for he knew not to eat the sugar. The police quickly arrested Allnut.

He held his innocence until he was taken away to prison and charged with the crime. Upon beginning his stay in prison, he confessed the stresses of the situation being too much for a twelve-year-old to handle. Allnut claimed the voices told him to, and that he would get away with it. William Allnut spent the rest of his days in a sanitarium.

# Falcons athletics battle for Gulf South Tournament berths

By ALEX TEJADA



Montevallo’s Michaila Franklin on a forward run at Varsity Field. Photo by Alex Tejada

Montevallo’s volleyball, men’s and women’s soccer teams enter the final part of their seasons with chances of making the Gulf South Tournament in their first seasons back in the conference since returning from the Peach Belt.

Katie O’ Brien’s volleyball team are 9-10 after putting together two consecutive victories, including Tuesday’s dramatic upset of the second team in the Gulf South, North Alabama. True freshman Evelina Teran had a team-high 15 kills to go along with eight blocks. Fellow freshman Amanda Nugent and senior Kristy Bohan also had double digit kills, with 12 and 11 respectively. Bohan leads the team in kills with 182 but has gotten help from the freshman outside hitters. Brie Blume also had over 100 kills in the season, and leads

the team in service aces, with 28 in the season. Blume has registered 225 digs, which is only bested by Michaela Henderson’s total of 273, which is eighth highest in the conference. O’ Brien’s team has benefitted from the use of two setters, utilizing a duo of freshman Liz Tisch and sophomore Harley Masoner. The Falcons have three conference matchups this weekend, which start Friday night against Lee. Montevallo hosts Auburn-Montgomery in Saturday’s Dig Lavender Game at noon before facing Spring Hill at 4 p.m.

Montevallo men’s soccer is 6-3-3 and occupy the sixth and final spot that makes the Gulf South Conference Tournament later this month. The Falcons are on a four-game unbeaten streak, which includes a 1-0 road win over

Union and a 6-0 home trouncing of Shorter. The victory was the largest conference win for Coach Bruce Dietterle who is looking to better last season’s 11-6 record. Montevallo scored a late equalizer against Lee on Senior Night courtesy of goalie Robert Kuta. The Polish keeper leads the conference in shutouts and saves, with six clean sheets to go along with 78 stops. Montevallo’s Cesare Marconi and Lukas Hauer lead the team with five goals each, and last season’s top scorer Liam Moore has a team-high four assists. The Falcons travel to Mississippi to face the Choctaws of Mississippi College on Friday before battling Delta State on Sunday.

Robert Lane has enjoyed his highest win total since arriving at Varsity Field, but has hopes of

even greater success. The Falcons are 8-5-1 and sit ninth in the Gulf South, one spot outside the tournament berths. With three conference road clashes against Mississippi College, Delta State and Auburn-Montgomery, the Falcons know that their destiny is in their hands. Montevallo has yet to lose successive games all season and are coming off of a morale-boosting 7-0 victory over Talladega College. Simone Nelson scored four goals in the final home game of the season, but it has been a true freshman who has been the real goal threat for Coach Lane in his third season. For a second season running, one of Lane’s freshman recruits proves to be a goal threat, and Allye Darnell is the prolific striker this season. The Kentucky native has five goals and

two assists, and another newcomer, Kira Bochart, has three strikes on the year. Last season’s assist leader Tylor Ring has three goals and Michaila Franklin has two goals. Both attackers have built on freshman campaigns with successful sophomore seasons. Defender Christane Malone and senior Taylor Gonzales, who have played in every game this season, have team-high three assists each.

October will prove to be a decisive month for Montevallo athletics as they approach the end of the season. All three teams hope to feature in the Gulf South Tournament since returning from the Peach Belt Conference and the possibility of all three reaching the tournament is very much on the cards.